



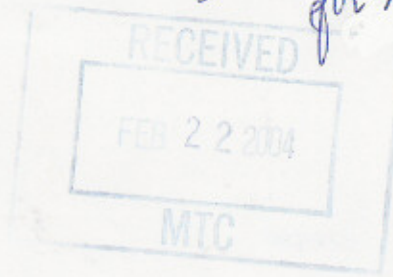
Steve, Theresa, Ann, Francis, Dory, James C. for response

Bay Area Bicycle Coalition

of the San Francisco Bay Area
1095 Market St. Suite 207
San Francisco, CA 94103
www.BayAreaBikes.org

February 18, 2005

Joint Policy Committee
Joseph P. Bort MetroCenter
101 8th Street
Oakland, CA 94607



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Dear Joint Policy Committee Members:

The Bay Area Bicycle Coalition (BABC) represents all the local bicycle coalitions in the Bay Area on issues of regional significance. BABC strongly supports the JPC/MTC effort to better connect transportation planning and land use. However, BABC is concerned that the JPC/MTC proposal, as currently drafted, may not be effective. BABC urges you to strengthen the policy by adopting the Livable Communities Platform, developed by TALC and the Greenbelt Alliance, as part of a Regional Transit-Oriented Development Policy.

The Livable Communities Platform includes the following elements:

- There should be specific minimum thresholds for both housing and jobs in each corridor
- Promote affordable housing in station areas.
- Create station area plans that include plans to minimize the space dedicated to parking in station areas, bicycle and pedestrian plans for safe routes to and within station areas, and blocks no more than 500 feet in length to ensure walkability.

These modest and sensible provisions should be required for all new transit investments. If properly implemented, these provisions can help to ensure that the region reaps the maximum benefit from the investment of our limited transportation funds. On behalf of bicyclists throughout the Bay Area, the BABC urges you to strengthen the proposed policy by incorporating the Livable Communities Platform.

Sincerely,

David Burch

David Burch
BABC Chair